

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 21 with the following:

Prior to ~~an~~ a fitting operation with respect to a male connector housing ~~which is not shown~~ 100, the retainer 71 of the fitting detector 70 is inserted into the hole 63 of the female connector housing 60 from the above. When a front end portion of the retainer 71 has come into contact with a front end of the hole 63, the front holder 66 of the female connector housing 60 is restricted to the initial position in which the front holder 66 protrudes from the fitting detector 70.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 2 with the following:

When the male connector housing 100 has started to be fitted with the female connector housing 60, a projection 101 of the male connector housing 100 is inserted from the below into the hole 63 of the female connector housing 60 thereby to push up the retainer 71 of the fitting detector 70 out of the hole 63, whereby restriction of the fitting detector 70 with respect to the female connector housing 60 will be released.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 8 with the following:

After the restriction with respect to the female connector housing 60 has been released, the fitting detector 70 slides relative to the female connector housing 60 to be displaced up to a position indicating the complete fitting. Then, the retainer 71 rides over the flexible lock arm 64 of the female connector housing 60 and locked to the flexible lock arm 64 with a feel of click thereby to be restrained from the sliding movement. With this motion, the complete fitting state of the male connector housing 100 with the female connector housing 60 can be detected, and male terminals

contained in the male connector housing 100 will be brought into electrical contact with the male terminals 62.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 25 with the following:

In such a configuration, when the second connector housing is fitted with the first connector housing, the ~~operator~~ operator's finger will not press the first connector housing because the operator conducts the fitting operation with his/her finger held on the finger pad of the fitting detector.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 2 with the following:

Here, it is preferable that ~~he~~ the bridge member comprises a guide projection which is usually brought into contact with the first connector housing.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 12 with the following:

As showing in Fig. 1, a connector 10 in this embodiment comprises a female connector housing 20 which is a connector housing having a flexible lock arm 21, and a fitting detector 30 in a substantially tubular shape fitted around the female connector housing 20 slidably in a fitting direction. The fitting detector 30 is provided with a retainer 31 adapted to be engaged with the flexible lock arm 21. A male connector housing ~~which is not shown~~ 100, shown in Fig. 6, is adapted to be fitted to the female connector housing 20.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22 with the following:

Because this will prevent the female connector housing 20 from being pressed with the fingers, such a drawback that the fitting detector becomes unable to slide

relative to the female connector housing 20, and the engagement between the male connector housing 100 and the female connector housing come into an incomplete fitting state will be avoided. As the results, the mutual engagement between the connector housings can be reliably conducted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 18 with the following:

Therefore, even though the fitting detector 30 has been flexed with a large load, the female connector housing 20 can be reliably moved without striking the protective bridge portion 34. As the results, incomplete fitting between the male connector housing 100 and the female connector housing 20 due to the fact that the fitting detector 30 becomes unable to slide relative to the female connector housing 20 will be avoided, and the mutual engagement between the connector housings can be reliably conducted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 5 with the following:

Then, the male connector housing 100 starts to be fitted with the female connector housing 20, and a projection (~~not shown~~) 101 of the male connector housing 100 is inserted into the hole 21a from the below of the flexible lock arm 21, as shown in Fig. 7. With this motion, the retainer 31 which has been engaged in the hole 21a is pushed out thereby to release the restriction for keeping the fitting detector 30 in the initial position, and the fitting detector 30 is put into a state allowable to move in the fitting direction.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 12 with the following:

After the fitting detector 30 has been moved by the operator to a predetermined position provided in the forward area of the connector 10 as shown in Fig. 8, the retainer 31 of the fitting detector 30 ~~will ride~~ rides over the flexible lock arm 21, and ~~will be~~ is dropped outside of a ~~rear~~ forward end portion of the flexible lock arm 21 in a manner of snap-action, thereby to be engaged with the ~~rear~~ forward end portion of the flexible lock arm 21.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 18 with the following:

As the results, the sliding movement of the fitting detector 30 will be stopped and the complete fitting state can be detected, permitting the female terminals 40 contained in the female connector housing 20 to be electrically connected to the male terminals contained in the male connector housing 100.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 22 with the following:

As described above, when the male connector housing 100 is engaged with the female connector housing 20 which is provided with the fitting detector 30 therearound, the operator conducts the fitting work with his fingers held on the finger pads 22 and the protective bridge portion 34 of the fitting detector 30. Moreover, when the fitting detector 30 slides relative to the female connector housing 20, the female connector housing 20 moves while being supported by the guide projection 36 which is extended from the protective bridge portion 34 in the fitting direction.